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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2134**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Application No.: 09/553,967

Filed: April 21, 2000

Inventors:

Sai V. Allavarpu
Anand Bhalerao

Title: Pluggable Authentication
Modules for
Telecommunications
Management Network

§ Examiner: Tran, Tongoc
§ Group/Art Unit: 2134
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-48700

OCT 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Name of Registered Representative

October 11, 2004

Signature

Date

**RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF
AUGUST 9, 2004**

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OCT 19 2004

Technology Center 2100

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Action of August 9, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.